

COMMAND OVERVIEW



HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Troy Finner
Chief of Police

February 2024

FROM THE CHIEF

The Houston Police Department is among the top-rated law enforcement organizations serving one of the most dynamic cities in the country. I have served this community my entire career and I am honored that John Whitmire and the Houston City Council have entrusted me with the leadership of this great department.

Our mission is clear: We foster a healthy, professional, and compassionate department that earns mutual trust with our community by providing the highest quality community-based policing and problem-solving services.

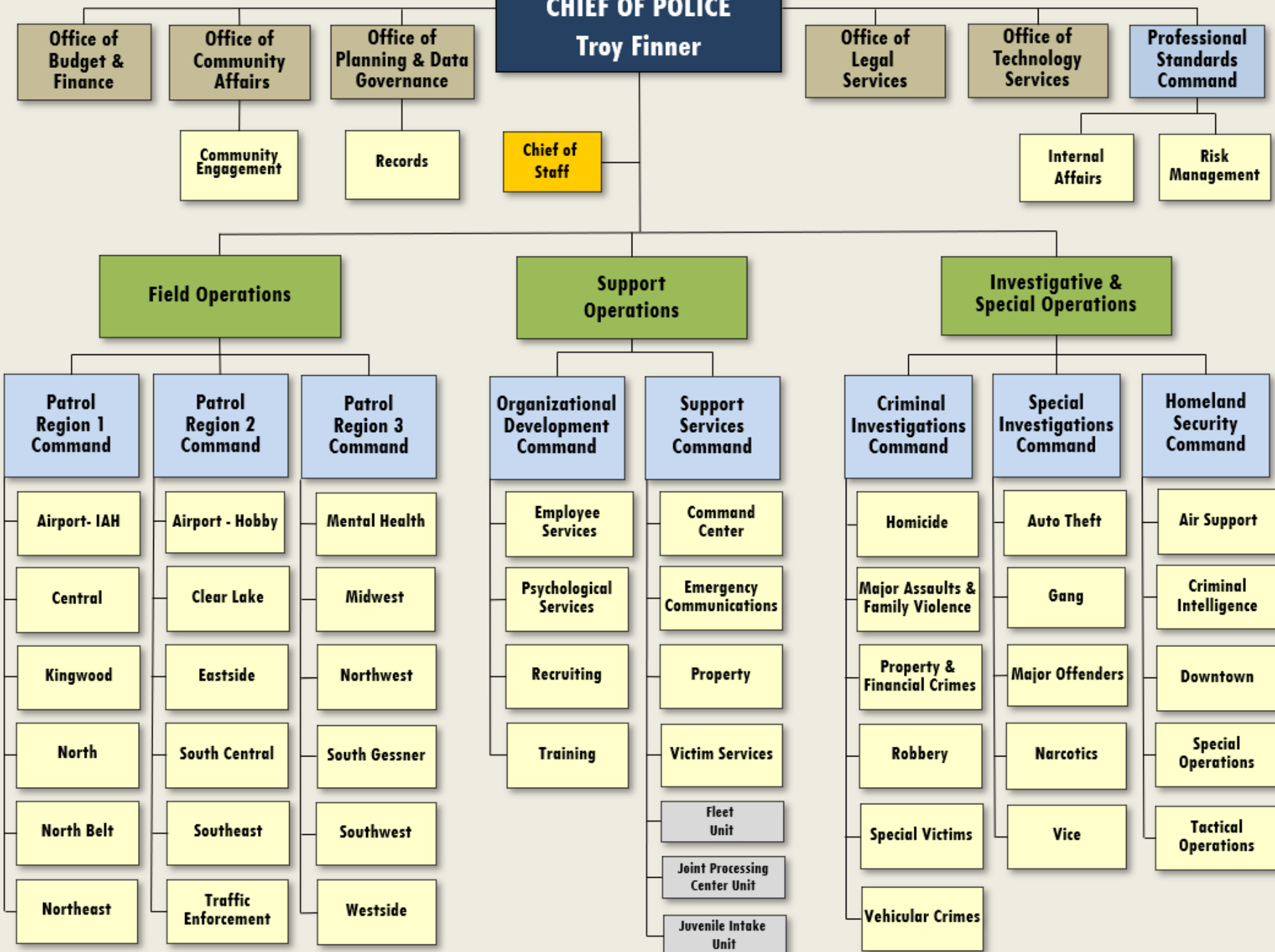
We have a duty to uphold our values of preserving and advancing democratic values, improving the quality of community life within the city and demonstrating professionalism that reflects the integrity of this department.

My intent of this Command Overview is to provide you with a better understanding of how our department is organized, how the organization is structured, and who within the command staff is responsible for specific areas; both jurisdictional and investigative. We want to be a transparent organization that fosters relationships that build trust, because trust is a critical component of our ability to work together to keep this city safe. We cannot be successful without your support.

Troy Finner
Chief of Police



**CHIEF OF POLICE
Troy Finner**



KEY

Chief of Staff
Cmdr. Hector Garcia

713-308-1600

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City Council Liaison

Sonja Odat

713-308-1700

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Council Public Session Liaison

Sgt. Kenneth Herndon

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TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

For life-threatening emergencies, call 9-1-1

For all other emergencies, call 713-884-3131

Air Support	832-395-1995
Airport—Hobby	713-845-6800
Airport—IAH	281-230-6800
Auto Theft	713-308-3500
Budget & Finance, Office of	713-308-1700
Chief of Police, Office of	713-308-1600
Community Affairs, Office of	713-308-3200
Command Center	713-308-1900
Criminal Intelligence	713-308-8700
Criminal Investigations Command	713-308-1860
Emergency Communications	832-393-9888
Employee Services	713-308-1220
Field Operations	713-308-1850
Gang	832-394-0970
Homeland Security Command	713-308-1880
Homicide	713-308-3600
Internal Affairs	713-308-8900
Investigative & Special Operations	713-308-1840
Juvenile	832-394-1845
Legal Services, Office of	713-308-1660
Major Assaults & Family Violence	713-308-8800
Major Offenders	713-308-3100
Mental Health	832-394-4200
Narcotics	713-308-3300
Organizational Development Command	713-308-1550
Patrol Region 1 Command	713-308-1570
Patrol Region 2 Command	713-308-1590
Patrol Region 3 Command	713-308-1580

Patrol Stations—

Central	713-247-4400
Clear Lake	832-395-1777
Downtown	832-394-0000
Eastside	832-395-1580
Kingwood	832-395-1800
Midwest	832-394-1200
North	832-394-3800
North Belt	832-394-4900
Northeast	832-395-1500
Northwest	832-394-5500
South Central	832-394-0200
South Gessner	832-394-4700
Southeast	832-394-1600
Southwest	832-394-0400
Westside	832-394-5600
Planning & Data Governance, Office of	713-308-9100
Professional Standards Command	713-308-1870
Property	832-394-4000
Property & Financial Crimes	713-308-0900
Psychological Services	832-394-1440
Records	713-308-8585
Recruiting	713-308-1300
Risk Management	713-308-9080
Robbery	713-308-0700
Special Investigations Command	713-308-1890
Special Operations	713-247-5000
Special Victims	713-308-1140
Support Operations	713-308-1540
Support Services Command	713-308-1800
Tactical Operations	713-394-4100
Technology Services, Office of	713-308-1820
Traffic Enforcement	713-247-5900
Training	832-394-2300
Vehicular Crimes	713-247-4072
Vice	713-308-8600
Victim Services	713-308-0080

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

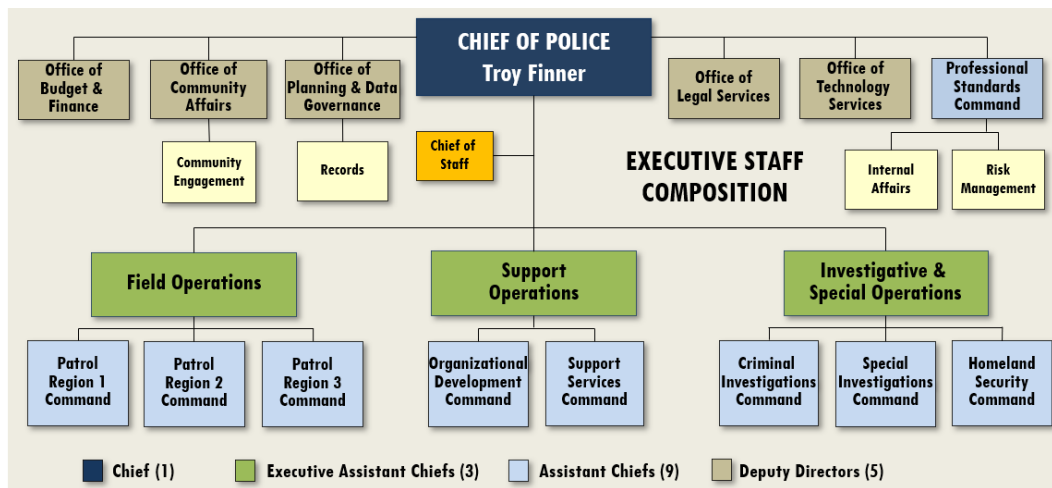
The Office of the Chief of Police coordinates and facilitates directives and needs assessments, as well as internal and external requests from stakeholders that include the HPD Command Staff, the Offices of the Mayor and City Council, other City departments, outside agencies, and citizens. The Chief meets weekly with his Executive Command Staff, which is composed of the department's Executive Assistant Chiefs, Assistant Chiefs, and Deputy Directors.



Troy Finner
Chief of Police

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The Office of Budget & Finance, Office of Community Affairs, Office of Legal Services, Office of Technology Services, Office of Planning and Data Governance, and Professional Standards Command report to the Chief of Police. The Executive Assistant Chiefs manage Field Operations, Support Operations, and Investigative & Special Operations report to the Chief of Police, the commands are summarized in subsequent sections of this document.

Office of Budget & Finance

The Office of Budget & Finance is responsible for the fiscal management of the department and oversight of its budget of more than \$1 billion in general revenue funds. The Office is led by a civilian Deputy Director who is a member of the Chief's Executive Staff.

Budget & Finance manages a wide variety of department-level activities that include fiscal planning, accounting, financial reporting, grant management, and asset tracking. The Office is organized into four units:

- **Administration**, which coordinates activities related to revenues and expenditures;
- **Financial Services**, which monitors and formulates multi-year forecasts and provides the monthly financial report;
- **Accounting Services**, which handles the day-to-day management of department funds (e.g., accounts payable and receivable operations); and
- **Procurement**, which oversees all of HPD's purchasing.



Rhonda Smith
Deputy Director
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Office of Technology Services

The Office of Technology Services manages the HPD information technology and communications capabilities. It provides 24/7 operational support for all mission critical information processing applications that support calls for service, records management, intelligence and crime analysis, and fingerprint identifications capabilities.

Technology Services also maintains the systems that allow the HPD to integrate with other local, state and federal systems. Local examples include connecting with the computer aided dispatch system located in the Houston Emergency Center, as well as with the Municipal Courts case management system. Units within the Office of Technology Services include:

- **Infrastructure & Data Center Services;**
- **Software Services & Project Management;**
- **Logistics Support;**
- **Communications & Infrastructure; and**
- **Video Management Services**



Viet Dang
Acting Deputy Director
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Office of Legal Services

The Office of Legal Services provides general legal counsel and representation to the Chief of Police and the Command Staff across a wide variety of subjects and areas related to the operations of HPD. The Office of Legal Services conducts research; prepares memoranda; drafts, reviews and revises ordinances, policies and procedures; and prepares contracts. The Office plays a significant role in reviewing and proposing both state and federal legislation impacting the department and the city.

In coordination with the City of Houston Legal Department, the Office of Legal Services also handles labor and employment issues. It ensures that the HPD investigative and disciplinary processes comply with federal and state law, city and department policy and the meet and confer agreement. Legal Services also works in conjunction with City Legal in the handling of administrative complaints and civil litigation involving the department. The Office also serves as the liaison with HPD's criminal justice partners, including the Harris County District Attorney's Office.



Ursula Williams
Deputy Director
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Office of Planning & Data Governance

The Office of Planning & Data Governance defines policies, responsibilities, and processes to standardize, integrate, and store data within a data governance framework. The Office coordinates research and planning for major projects and studies to increase office safety through policy development, organizational development, and product testing. It serves as the department's lead in coordinating the sharing of policy and procedures with other law enforcement agencies, as well as coordinating the department's participation in nationwide law enforcement studies. In addition, the Office provides certain logistical services to the department.

The Office is organized into the following units:

- **Special Projects;**
- **Data Governance;**
- **Geographic Information Systems;**
- **Crime Analysis & Research;**
- **Vendor Product Review Team;**
- **Records Management Support;**
- **Emergency Preparation; and**
- **Uniform Supply.**



Melissa Cummins
Deputy Director
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Records

The mission of Records Division is to function in a supporting role to the patrol and investigative divisions. Additionally, Records provides customer service to the general public, HPD staff, and other criminal justice agencies by providing police offense reports and crash reports through multiple mediums. Some of the division's units include:

- **Auto Theft/Tow-In/Repossession Section** -a 24/7 operation that maintains information about towed vehicles;
- **Criminal History Section** -updates records for arrested suspects;
- **Public Counter** -responds to call, mail and walk-in requests from the public seeking copies of crash and incident reports; and
- **Staff Review** -collects crime statistics in accordance with the National Incident Based Reporting System for the monthly crime reporting to the state.



John Justiniano
Police Administrator
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QUICK TIP!

Public transparency is a top priority within the Houston Police Department. The department shares various statistics and departmental policies to the public.

How to access

Go to <https://www.houstontx.gov/police/transparency/index.htm>

Go to <https://policetransparency-mycity.hub.arcgis.com>

Professional Standards Command

The Professional Standards Command is managed by an assistant chief, who reports to the Chief of Police. Its staff manages Risk Management and Internal Affairs Division.

The Professional Standards Command is charged with maintaining the police department's integrity. This is accomplished by conducting audits outside the normal chain of command to ensure an objective review of procedures and activities, investigating misconduct complaints against employees, and facilitating training and guidance to both classified and civilian personnel.



Milton Martin
Assistant Chief
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Risk Management Internal Affairs

The Risk Management Division conducts in-depth examinations and audits of functions, programs, and components of the department as directed by the Chief of Police. Audits are conducted outside the normal chain of command to ensure an objective review of agency procedures and activities. The division prepares policy documents through written directives, such as General Orders and Standard Operating Procedures, along with scheduling narcotics and weapon destruction assignments with the Property Room and Crime Lab. The division also ensures Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) policy compliance through training, auditing, and identity verification processes as well as conducting integrity checks for ranks of commander and above, and their civilian equivalents.

Risk Management Division has a Court Liaison Unit to ensure that HPD officers are responsive to subpoenas and in court as required. Another unit coordinates employment related drug testing. The Extra Employment Unit ensures that personnel are complying with department policy when they work outside jobs.



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Commander
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Established in 1977, Internal Affairs investigates allegations of misconduct against HPD employees. It is a fact-finding entity with a three-fold purpose:

- **Protect the public.** The public has the right to receive fair, efficient, and impartial law enforcement. Any misconduct by department personnel must be detected, thoroughly investigated, and properly adjudicated.
- **Protect the department.** The department is often judged by the conduct of its employees. It is imperative that the whole organization not be criticized because of the misconduct of a few. An informed public must have confidence that its police department honestly and fairly investigates and adjudicates all allegations of misconduct against its employees.
- **Protect the employee.** Employees must be protected against false or misinformed allegations of misconduct. This can only be accomplished through a consistently thorough investigative process.

In addition to investigating allegations made against personnel, the division also conducts proactive, covert investigations and surveillance of personnel suspected of misconduct.



Donna Crawford
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Office of Community Affairs

The Office of Community Affairs is led by a civilian Deputy Director responsible for media relations, community service functions, commendations and awards, video production, and the department's website and social media presence. The Office coordinates a wide range of outreach and community service programs, including:

- **Youth programs**, such as the Police Activities League, Youth Police Advisory Council, Explorers, and Boys & Girls Clubs;
- **Special events** like National Night Out, March on Crime, the Comida Food Drive, and Shop with a Cop;
- **Community training and presentations** on topics including active shooters and crime prevention; and
- **Volunteer opportunities**, including Citizens on Patrol, Communicators on Patrol, the Citizens' Police Academy, and internships.



Kese Smith
Deputy Director

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Community Engagement

Under the direction of the Deputy Director, Community Engagement is led by a Commander responsible for reaching out to youth, serving as liaisons to Houston's diverse communities, and educating the public on crime prevention and safety.

Youth programs seek to reduce crime, violence and gang involvement among elementary, middle, and high school youth through a combination of educational, athletic, recreational and leadership activities.

HPD's Community Liaisons facilitate two-way conversations between the department and Houston's unique communities to address their specific needs, concerns, and issues.

Crime education addresses topics such as personal safety and crime prevention using a combination of community presentations, social media campaigns, and traditional media outreach.



Caroletta Johnson
Commander

713-308-3200

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FIELD OPERATIONS

Patrol Operations is an executive level office directed by an Executive Assistant Chief who is responsible for leading, organizing, directing, coordinating, developing, and implementing management strategies that promote efficient and effective solutions to critical service, crime, disorder, and traffic mobility issues.

Additionally, the position requires serving as chair to various internal committees that address organizational issues, as well as addressing community concerns expressed by citizens. The Executive Assistant Chief is also called upon to act as a liaison with city officials when designated by the Chief of Police.

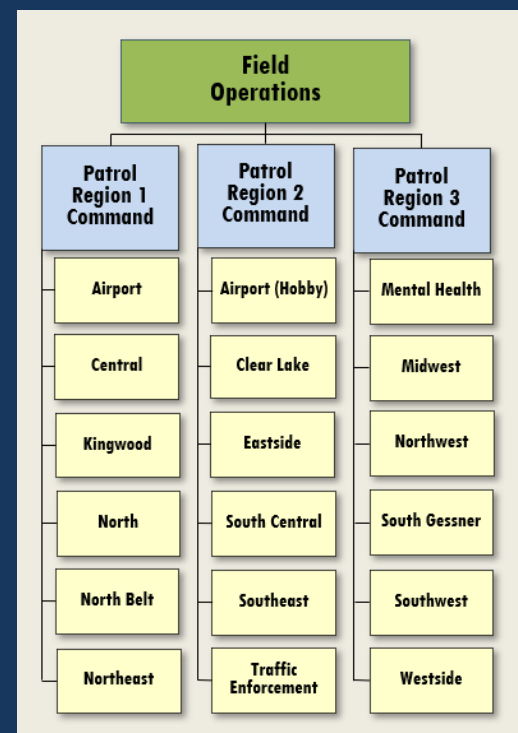
The span of control for this office includes Patrol Region 1, Patrol Region 2 and Patrol Region 3 Commands, described in the command summaries that follow.



Larry Satterwhite
Executive Assistant Chief

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PATROL REGION 1 COMMAND

Patrol Region 1 Command is directed by an Assistant Chief who manages six police Commanders and is responsible for the operations of the Airport-(IAH), Central, Kingwood, North, North Belt, and Northeast Patrol Divisions. The Command's geographic area of responsibility includes approximately 1/3 of the city. This area incorporates everything within the city limits extending in a large arc generally east of Highway 290, sweeping all the way over to include all areas north of Buffalo Bayou / Houston Ship Channel area, as well as the areas inside the 610 Loop just west and north of downtown. Additionally, the Willowbrook and Greenspoint areas are included.

The Command serves as a central distribution point and quality assurance check for all paperwork generated by each of its divisions. The Command oversees the **Apartment Enforcement Unit**, additionally, the Command provides oversight for the various community outreach activities engaged upon by the divisions. This year, each division designated a **Police Activities League (PAL)** officer who will interact with young people in order to help strengthen police-community relations.

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

Safety at Home:

- Lock your doors and windows. Install a peephole.
- Install exterior and interior lighting that automatically turns lights on and off.
- Trim back heavy, dense brush that would give someone a place to hide.

Street Sense:

- Walk with confidence to communicate that you know what is going on around you.
- Walk with a buddy. There is safety in numbers.
- Try not to carry a purse and avoid displaying large amounts of cash or expensive jewelry.




Megan Howard
Assistant Chief

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Central



Central Patrol Station
(currently closed to the public
due to flood damage from
Hurricane Harvey)

Central Patrol serves both Districts 1 and 2, which are composed of ten beats and 32 square miles. Landmarks in this area include Memorial, Spotts, Eleanor Tinsley, and Moody Parks; Buffalo and White Oak Bayous; HSPVA, Carnegie Vanguard, Northside, Law and Justice, Heights, and Lamar High Schools; White Oak Musical Hall; Lakewood Church; and many consulate offices including China, Israel, Brazil, Russia, Panama, Ghana, India, Norway and Sweden.


Significant neighborhoods within Central Division are Fourth Ward, Montrose, Hyde Park, Afton Oaks, River Oaks, Highland Village, Irvington, Heights, Studemont, First Ward, Old Sixth Ward, Memorial Park, Post Oak Park, Rice Military, Greenway Plaza, Lindale, Midtown, Upper Kirby, Timber Grove, Cottage Grove and the Washington Corridor.

The Central Patrol also contains several TIRZ areas: Upper Kirby TIRZ 19, Fourth Ward TIRZ 14, Old Sixth Ward TIRZ 13, and some of Midtown TIRZ 2.



Greyson Wilson
Commander
713-247-4400
Greyson.Wilson@
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Kingwood



Kingwood Patrol Station
3915 Rustic Woods
Houston, TX 77339
Open 24 hours daily

Kingwood Patrol serves police district 24 and its six beats. Kingwood is a large, 14,000 acre master planned community located 23 miles northeast of downtown Houston. Significant landmarks include the Kingwood and Deerwood Country Clubs, portions of Lake Houston and the west fork of the San Jacinto River.

Kingwood Division is also responsible for a portion of the Huffman community, the Summerwood community on the west bank of Lake Houston, and for the Lake Houston Wilderness Park.



Adrian Rodriguez
Commander
832-395-1800
Adrian.Rodriguez@
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North



North Patrol Station
9455 West Montgomery
Houston, TX 77088
Open 24 hours daily

North Division serves two police districts (District 3 and 6), which are composed of a total of nine beats. The area's 51 square miles include the communities north of 610 north, west of the Hardy Toll Road, east of Highway 290, and south of the county line. Effective January 2018, the Greenspoint area, which had been part of North Division, became part of the newly formed North Belt Division.


Some of the significant landmarks within this patrol region include Northwest Mall, the Northline Commons Mall; TC Jester Park and Sylvester Turner Park; HISD's Hattie Mae White Education Center; Delmar Stadium and Fieldhouse; and Scarborough, Eisenhower, Sam Houston, Waltrip, and Booker T. Washington High Schools.

The major neighborhoods in these districts include Acres Homes, Greater Inwood, Oak Forest, Garden Oaks, Independence Heights, and Northline communities.



Luis Menendez-Sierra
Commander
832-394-3800
Luis.Menendez-Sierra@
HoustonPolice.org

North Belt

 North Belt Patrol Station
100 Glenborough
Houston, TX 77060
Open 24 hours daily

In January 2018, HPD established the North Belt Division (22 District) to more efficiently and effectively provide police services to four beats located adjacent to Beltway 8 on the north side of Houston that were previously serviced by three patrol divisions: Northwest, North, and Northeast.


The district includes Willowbrook, Greenspoint, and the non-airport communities surrounding Houston's largest airport. Significant landmarks include Willowbrook Mall, Greenspoint Mall, North Houston Skate Park and Dylan Park, and George Bush Intercontinental Airport. It also includes the North Houston District (formerly Greater Greenspoint Management District) and TIRZ 11-North Houston Development Corporation (formerly Greater Greenspoint Redevelopment Authority).

Though the Division currently operates from an office building, plans are underway for a police station to be built next to Fire Station 84 on Gears Road.



Jonathan Zera
Commander
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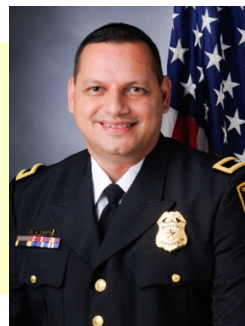
Northeast

 Northeast Patrol Station
8301 Ley Road
Houston, TX 77028
Open 24 hours daily

The Northeast Division serves three districts (7, 8 and 9), comprising 14 beats totaling nearly 90 square miles.

Large common areas in the area include Herman Brown Park, Tidwell Park, Keith Weiss Park, Brock Park, Finnegan Park, Shady Lane Park, Veterans Memorial Park, Scenic Woods Park, Hobart Taylor Park, Barbara Jordan Park, and Rosewood Park. HISD high schools in the area include North Forest, Kashmere, Wheatley, Furr and Barbara Jordan. Business centers within the area are mainly concentrated along the I-10 Corridor in the 13000 to 14000 blocks of the East Freeway.

Neighborhoods include Fifth Ward, Pine Crest, Kashmere Gardens, Camden Woods, Lakewood Park, Houston Gardens, Homestead, Parkhurst, Glenwood Forest, Edgeworth, the Port of Houston, Denver Harbor, Songwood, City Park East, Northshore Trinity Gardens, Rosewood, Clinton Park, Pleasantville, and Shady Tidwell Timbers.



Robert Cantu
Commander
832-395-1500
Robert.Cantu@HoustonPolice.org

Airport-IAH

The Airport-IAH Division is based at the George Bush Intercontinental Airport. Operations consist of 24/7 police support by patrolling passenger screening checkpoints, boarding gates, and anywhere else in the terminals where there might be a breach of security, weapons, bomb threat or other threat to safety and security.

The division has traditional patrol functions, as well as additional security functions that are mandated by the federal government. The division services the airport and the immediate surrounding areas, District 21.

The division has three specialized units that work cooperatively to prevent and deter terrorism while providing a high level of quality police patrol and support for the traveling public and aviation community. These specialized units include *Criminal Investigations*, which follows up on most airport-related criminal cases, *Tactical Bike Patrol*, and *Explosive Detection Canine*, which provides teams of federally-certified explosives detection canines and their handlers to respond to calls regarding suspicious bags and bomb threats, proactive patrols and sweeps, and dignitary protection.



Michael Faulhaber
Commander
281-230-6800
Michael.Faulhaber@HoustonPolice.org

PATROL REGION 2 COMMAND

Patrol Region 2 Command is directed by an Assistant Chief who manages six police Commanders and is responsible for the day to day operations, planning, supervision, and review of the Clear Lake, Eastside, South Central, and Southeast, in addition to Hobby Airport and Traffic Enforcement. Each of the divisions under Region 2 is predominately located within the southeast quadrant of the city which has a population of approximately 484,820 and encompasses approximately 140 square miles.



Patricia Cantu
Assistant Chief

713-308-1590

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HoustonPolice.org

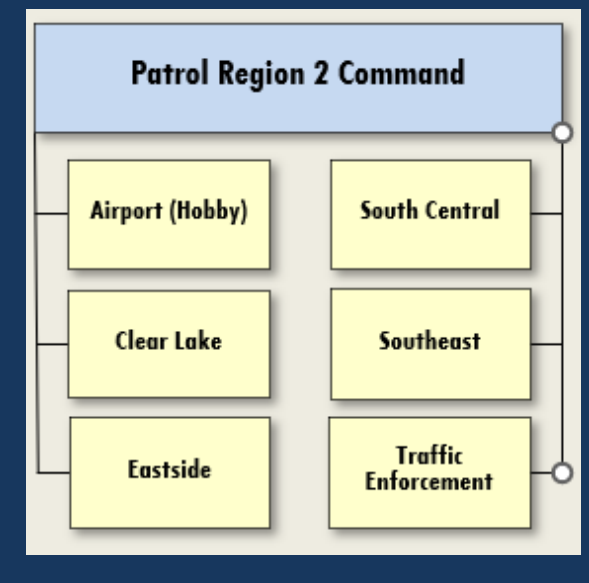
CRIME PREVENTION

Don't help criminals steal from your car!


- Always close the windows and lock the doors. Don't leave valuables in plain view.
- If possible, park your vehicle in a garage or driveway. Avoid curbside parking.
- Use auto theft deterrents such as car alarms, kill switches, or steering wheel/column locking devices.
- Be aware of your surroundings and always park in well-lighted, high traffic areas.

Stay safe when riding a bicycle!

- Make sure your bike is in good working order before riding. Check your tires for proper inflation, and your chain and brakes for proper operation.
- Wear a helmet and secure it correctly.
- Obey all traffic rules, signs and signals. Look before changing lanes.
- Use hand signals when turning.
- Ride on the right-hand side of the road, and travel in the direction of traffic.
- Wear brightly colored clothing and use lights at night.



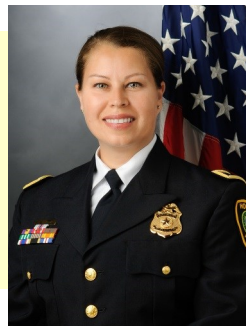
Clear Lake



Clear Lake Patrol Station
2855 Bay Area Blvd.
Houston, TX 77058
Open 24 hours daily


The Clear Lake Division provides police services to District 12, which covers the Gulf Freeway/College/Airport corridor continuing south along the Gulf Freeway near Nasa Road One. The nearly 47 square mile area is home to more than 158,000 residents.

Notable landmarks include NASA’s Johnson Space Center and Space Center Houston; Baybrook and Alameda Malls; University of Houston Clear Lake; San Jacinto College South, Clear Lake High School, Dobie Ninth Grade Center, and the Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital.



Claudia Cruz
Commander
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South Central



South Central Patrol Station
2202 St. Emanuel
Houston, TX 77003
Open 24 hours daily

South Central Division is responsible for providing police services to District 10, which encompasses a geographical area “generally” south of US 59/Houston Ship Channel, east of Kirby, north of Old Spanish Trail (OST), and west of Terminal/Hughes Street.


Significant landmarks within District 10 include the University of Houston (Main Campus), Texas Southern University, Rice University, BBVA Compass Stadium, Texas Medical Center, Houston Ship Channel, Hermann Park, the Houston Zoo, Emancipation Park, Consulate General of Mexico, and 16 museums.

The major neighborhoods in the District include Midtown, Second Ward, Greater Eastwood, East Downtown, Third Ward, Museum Park, MacGregor, Medical Center, University Place and Rice Village.



Son Nguyen
Commander
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Eastside



Eastside Patrol Station
7525 Sherman
Houston, TX 77012
Open 24 hours daily

Eastside Patrol Division is responsible for 11 District which is located in Houston’s East End. Eastside Patrol Division is also responsible for the Port of Houston and the Sidney Sherman Ship Channel Bridge, which carries 610 traffic over the waterway. The area has about 80,000 residents in an area just over 20 square miles.

Some of the significant landmarks within this patrol district include the San Jacinto Battlegrounds which include the San Jacinto Monument, Battleship Texas and San Jacinto State Park; Mason Park, Ingrando Park, Pecan Park, and Charlton Park; Gus Wortham Golf Course; and Milby High School.

The major neighborhoods within Eastside Patrol Division’s area of responsibility are East Lawndale, Idylwood, Meadow Creek, Sunnyland, Magnolia Park, Manchester, Park Place, Oak Meadows and Meadowbrook neighborhoods.



David Coleman
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Southeast



Southeast Patrol Station
8300 Mykawa
Houston, TX 77048
Open 24 hours daily

The Southeast Division is responsible for Districts 13 and 14. These districts are located in the southeast Houston, generally bounded by State Highway 288 to the west, the Gulf Freeway (I-45 South) to the east, Old Spanish Trail (OST) to the north, and the Sam Houston Toll Road to the south. A very active railroad system that connects Houston to chemical plants and distribution points throughout coastal southeast Texas dissects the Southeast Patrol area.

Significant landmarks in the southeast area include William P. Hobby Airport, which recently began serving international destinations; the Gulfgate Shopping Center; and Worthing High School, which has been educating Houstonians since 1958.

Major neighborhoods in the southeast area include OST/South Union, Sunnyside, Southpark, South Acres, Crestmont Park, Minnetex, Gulfgate, Pine Valley, Golfcrest, Reveille, and the greater Hobby area.



Michael S. Collins
Commander

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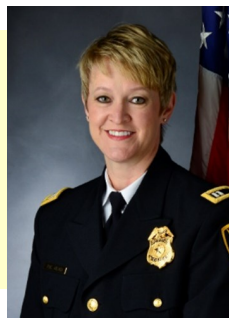
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Airport-Hobby

The Airport-Hobby Division is based at William P. Hobby (HOU) Airport. Operations consists of 24/7 police support by patrolling passenger screening checkpoints, boarding gates, or anywhere else in the terminals where there might be a breach of security, weapons, bomb threat or other threat to safety and security. Additional patrols include mobile units that are responsible for patrolling all major streets and perimeters surrounding the airport.

The division has traditional patrol functions as well as additional security functions that are mandated by the federal government. The division also provides services to Ellington Airport and the immediate area, District 23. Ellington Airport contains commercial and general aviation along with several significant installations, such as NASA, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the Texas Army and Air National Guard.

The division has specialized units that work cooperatively to prevent and deter terrorism while providing a high level of quality police patrol and support for the traveling public and aviation community. These units include *Criminal Investigations*, which follows up on most airport-related criminal cases, and *Tactical Bike Patrol*.



Paula Read
Commander

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Traffic Enforcement

The Traffic Enforcement Division's works to protect the safety of the public by enforcing laws to curtail unsafe/illegal driving practices. Specific enforcement aims to detect impaired drivers and coordinate testing of persons arrested for driving while intoxicated. The enforcement of traffic laws with an eye towards accident prevention is the goal of the division. The division's operational units include:

- **DWI Task Force**, which works to detect and apprehend intoxicated drivers;
- **Mobility Response Team**, which responds to and mitigates significant non-freeway congestion due to unexpected events (e.g., signal malfunctions, crashes, roadway hazards, fire, and weather events);
- **Motorcycle Detail (Solos)**, which works to maintain the flow of traffic on Houston's freeway system;
- **Radar Task Force**, which works with patrol to target locations in need of enforcement ; and
- **Highway Interdiction**, a uniformed squad comprised of truck enforcement officers, traffic enforcement officers and K-9 officers tasked with addressing transportation of illegal narcotics.



Clifton Holloway
Commander

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PATROL REGION 3 COMMAND

The Patrol Region 3 Command is directed by an Assistant Chief who manages six police Commanders and is responsible for the operations of the Midwest, Northwest, South Gessner, Southwest, and Westside Divisions, in addition to the Mental Health Division. The Command also coordinates the department's citywide **Differential Response Team** (DRT) program. The Command serves as a distribution point and quality assurance check for all paperwork generated by each of its divisions. This paperwork includes, but is not limited to, division requests, internal affairs investigations, injury on-duty claims, significant event reports, officer-involved accident investigations, special requests and assignments.

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

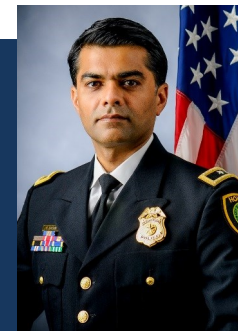
One specific type of vehicle burglary has been on the rise in recent years. "Jugging" occurs when criminals follow an unsuspecting bank customer who has made a cash withdrawal and, once they start to run their other errands, the thieves break into their car and steal their money.

If you are making a cash withdrawal from a bank, be on the lookout for:

1. Vehicles left running in the parking lot with multiple people inside.
2. People waiting in the parking lot but who never enter into the bank.
3. Vehicles that switch parking spaces.
4. Vehicles with very dark tint.

When carrying cash or visiting the bank to withdraw cash:

1. Be aware of your surroundings.
2. Conceal your money bag or money envelope from view before leaving the bank lobby.
3. After leaving the bank, do not run additional errands. Take the cash to your final destination, preferably somewhere that other people are present.
4. Take a different or inconspicuous route to your home or business from the bank; avoid establishing a predictable pattern.




Yasar Bashir
Assistant Chief

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Midwest



Midwest Patrol Station
7277 Regency Square
Houston, TX 77036
Open 24 hours daily

Midwest Division is responsible for District 18, which has a geographic area of 18.67 square miles that encompasses the area south of Interstate 10 West (Katy Freeway), west of IH 610 (West Loop) to Hunters Creek city limits. The northern boundary continues along Buffalo Bayou to Gessner, south to Bellaire, west to Corporate, then south to U.S. 59 South (Southwest Freeway), the southern border of the district.


The Midwest Division provides police services to the most racially and ethnically diverse population in the country. Its area includes:

- 32 foreign consulates;
- 198 apartment complexes;
- Highest volume of retail shops, including the Galleria;
- Uptown District;
- Mahatma Gandhi District; and
- Harwin Corridor.



Zachary Becker
Commander
832-394-1200
Zachary.Becker@HoustonPolice.org

Northwest



Northwest Patrol Station
6000 Teague
Houston, TX 77041
Open 24 hours daily

Northwest Patrol serves two districts (4 and 5), which encompasses six police beats.

Some of the significant landmarks are Marq*E Entertainment Center, Texas Children’s Hospital-West Campus, Bear Creek Park, and Addicks Reservoir.


The major neighborhoods are Timber Oaks, Claymore Park, Afton Village, Spring Branch, Spring Shadows, Schwartz Park, Carverdale, and Northwest Crossing.

The Northwest Division also contains the Memorial City Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) 17 area.



Lawrence Leon
Commander
832-394-5500
Lawrence.Leon@HoustonPolice.org

South Gessner



South Gessner Patrol Station
8605 Westplace Drive
Houston, TX 77071
Open 24 hours daily

South Gessner Patrol provides police services to District 17, which is comprised of four beats that cover an area south of the Southwest Freeway and north of South Main. The majority of the district has an eastern boundary at Hillcroft, with the 17E10 beat extending past Hillcroft up to the Bellaire City limits. The western boundary is the Southwest Freeway and the southwestern border of West Sam Houston Parkway South.


Landmarks in the area include Sharpstown High School; Houston Baptist University; Bayland, Burnett Bayland, Braeburn Glen, Bonham and Marion Parks; the Braeburn Country Club; the consulate offices for Ethiopia and El Salvador; the City of Houston’s Southwest Multi-Service Center and Harris County’s Chimney Rock Center.

Some of the neighborhoods located in this patrol area include Gulfton, Sharpstown, Braeburn, Braes Terrace, Braeburn Valley, Braeburn Valley West, Glenshire, Southmeadow, Northfield, Northbrook, Northbrook South, and West Airport.



Samantha Rubin
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Southwest

 Southwest Patrol Station
13097 Nitida
Houston, TX 77045
Open 24 hours daily

Southwest Patrol provides police services to Districts 15 and 16, a 52 square mile area with an estimated residential population of 217,000.


Significant landmarks in this district include the NRG Stadium complex and Astrodome; Brays Bayou and the Willow Waterhole; Karl Young and Linkwood Parks; HISD's Madison High School; the Hiram Clarke MultiService Center; Meyerland Plaza Shopping Center; Congregation Beth Yeshurun and Congregation Beth Israel; the Power Center; and a portion of the Texas Medical Center.

Neighborhoods in this district include Meyerland, Robindell, Braeburn Terrace, and Maplewood South; Westbury, Park West, and Willow Creek; Meyer Park, Post Oak Manor, Westwood, Willow Bend, and Linkwood; Lakes at 610 and Plaza del Oro; Canterbury Village and Monarch Estates; Alameda Plaza, South Glen, Dumbarton Oaks, and Briarwick; Greenpark, Southwest Crossing; and Windsor Village; Chasewood, Willowpark, Briarwick, Ridgemont, and Quail Run.



Daryn Edwards
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Westside

 Westside Patrol Station
3203 S. Dairy Ashford
Houston, TX 77082
Open 24 hours daily

Westside Division provides police services to Districts 19 and 20, a 68 square mile area with an estimated residential population of 310,000.

Major landmarks include Memorial City Mall, Town & Country Village, Hong Kong City Mall, and West Oaks Mall; Hermann Memorial City Hospital and West Houston Medical Center; the Energy Corridor, Westchase Corridor, Westwood Technology Center, and Chinatown; Royal Oaks and Westwood Country Clubs; Arthur Storey, Mike Driscoll, and Terry Hershey Parks; the Buffalo Bayou Hike and Bike Trail; Alief ISD, its Sports Complex, Alief Hastings and Alief Elsik High Schools; Houston ISD's Westside High School; Spring Branch ISD's Athletics Complex and Stratford High School.

Westside includes 106 named neighborhoods and 504 apartment communities. It has four Super Neighborhoods (16, 17, 18 and 25) and is served by the Southwest, International, and Westchase Management Districts.

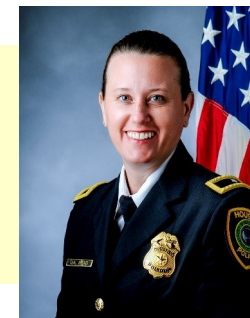


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Mental Health

Police and mental health clinicians assigned to the Mental Health Division provide assistance to consumers through various programs. This division is the department liaison with the mental health community in the area. Police and mental health clinicians assigned to the Mental Health Division provide assistance to consumers through various programs, some of which include:

- **Crisis Intervention Response Team**, which partners officers with a masters-level licensed professional clinicians from the Harris Center, deployed in the call for service loop to assist patrol officers with responses to individuals suffering serious mental health crises;
- **Homeless Outreach Team**, which partners officers and mental health case managers to engage in street outreach to the chronically homeless, with the goal of moving them into temporary, short or longer term housing;
- **Crisis Intervention Training**, which provides 40 hours of training to officers; and
- **Chronic Consumer Stabilization Initiative**, which provides mental health case managers for those whose continual mental health crises have resulted in frequent calls to HPD.



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Support Operations

Support Operations is an executive command level office directed by an Executive Assistant Chief who reports directly to the Chief of Police. Responsibilities include organizing, directing, coordinating, developing, and implementing management strategies that promote efficient and effective solutions to critical support issues, including organizational development, and training. The span of control for this office includes the Organizational Development Command and the Support Services Command, as outlined in greater detail in the command summaries.

Other duties for the Executive Assistant Chief, include, but are not limited to, representing the department and the Chief of Police at ceremonies, civic meetings, city council meetings, and disciplinary hearings. Additionally, the position requires serving as chairman of various internal committees that address organizational and community issues. The Executive Assistant Chief is also called upon to act as a liaison with city officials when designated by the Chief of Police, to include serving as the Acting Chief of Police, as required.

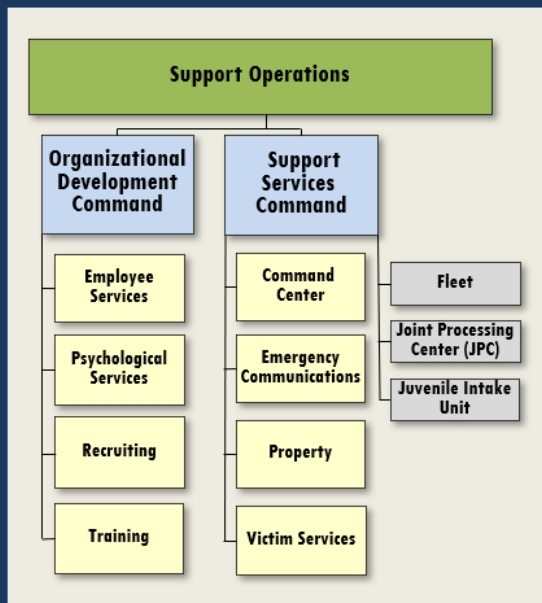
The span of control for this office includes Organizational Development Command and Support Services Command, described in the command summaries that follow.



Chandra Hatcher
Executive Assistant Chief

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ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMAND

The Organizational Development Command reports directly to an Executive Assistant Chief. It is responsible for the recruiting, hiring, and training of officers and civilian employees. The Command is also responsible for personnel activities such as record keeping, promotional exams and actions, personnel transfers, wellness, and provides psychological services to employees and their immediate family members. An Assistant Chief is responsible for the oversight and supervision of four divisions, each led by a Commander. Each is described in greater detail in the division summaries on the pages that follow.



Ernest Garcia III
Assistant Chief

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Employee Services

The Employee Services Division provides many services to both civilian and classified employees. These tasks directly affect the work environment and personal benefits. The division is organized into the following units:

- **Administrative/Employee Relations Unit**, which supports the entire division, manages special projects, and processes State of Texas concealed handgun license requests for retired officers;
- **Family Assistance**, which helps employees and their families with funerals, insurance issues, and pension arrangements;
- **Foreign Language and Phase Down**, which coordinates the classified and civilian bilingual testing program, in addition to managing the phase down program;
- **Civilian Employment**, which is responsible for job postings, hiring and promotions; and
- **Employee Support**, which updates personnel files; processes performance evaluations; and manages employee benefits.



Giang Tien
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Psychological Services

The division's mission is to enhance the mental well-being and professionalism of classified and civilian employees to maintain the public confidence as they serve the community. Psychological Services serves four primary functions within the Police Department:

- **Administrative Consultation:** The division serves as an advisor or expert for specific critical incidents, committees, conferences, and projects.
- **Counseling:** The division provides more than 500 counseling sessions per month for personnel and their families. Therapy is generally voluntary, except in a limited number of situations.
- **Psychological Evaluations:** Psychologists screen police applicants, jail attendants, and officers transferring to specialized investigative and tactical divisions.
- **Training:** The unit develops and provides mandatory and elective training for employees.



Stephen Tate, PhD
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Training

The Training Division instructs police cadets and provides continuing education to all personnel. It accommodates interagency training to build training collaborations with other agencies. It manages field training programs and maintains certification, training, and educational records. Some of the division's major units include:

- **Cadet Training Unit**, which is responsible for all aspects of cadet training;
- **Defensive Tactics/Physical Training Unit**, which offers training in use of intermediate weapons and conducted energy devices;
- **In-service Unit**, which facilitates course development and scheduling;
- **Certification**, which documents and validates training completion as required for the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement;
- **Driver's Training Unit**, which teaches precision driving and provides remedial instruction following at-fault crashes; and
- **Firearms Training Unit and Qualification Pistol Range**, which provide firearm instruction and ensure that officers remain proficient in use of their weapons.



James Bryant
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Recruiting

The Recruiting Division manages all aspects of the hiring process for classified personnel. It recruits applicants, conducts background investigations, and makes recommendations to the Chief of Police regarding the suitability of applicants. The division is organized into the following units:

- **Recruiting Events**, which works to attract potential police applicants by attending career fairs and making classroom presentations in colleges and on military bases;
- **Recruiting Intake**, which processes applicants through the initial application steps;
- **Recruiting Administration**, which handles all administrative functions for the division;
- **Recruiting Investigative**, which handles background investigations of applicants and liaisons with other department divisions and other city departments to efficiently process applicants, as well as generates an employment recommendation for the Chief of Police for each applicant; and
- **Polygraph Services**, which administers pre-employment screening exams to applicants.



Hong-Le Conn
Commander

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JOIN US!

HPD is always looking for individuals who want to help keep Houston safe. Visit HPDCareer.com for details or follow the Recruiting Division on social media.

SUPPORT SERVICES COMMAND

The Support Services Command reports directly to an Executive Assistant Chief. It is responsible for ensuring the effective and efficient operation and use of resources by its divisions, including delegation of work assignments and verifying assignments are properly completed. The Command is also responsible for reviewing the written policy directives, performance reviews, and audits from each division's operation prior to being forwarded to the Chief of Police.

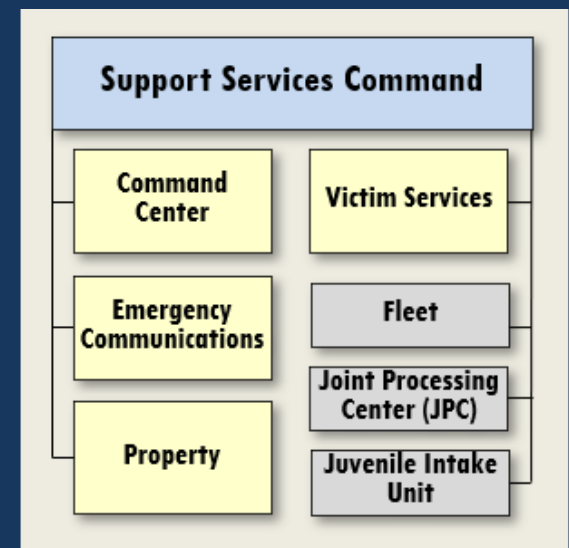
The Support Services Command is managed by an Assistant Chief. In addition to coordinating the activities of the Fleet Unit, the Joint Processing Center Unit, and Juvenile Intake, the Assistant Chief oversees the Commanders responsible for the four divisions described on the pages that follow.



Jessica Anderson
Assistant Chief

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Command Center

The Crime Analysis & Command Center Division is managed by a Commander and is divided into the following units:

- **Crime Analysis**, which conducts statistical and analytical research on anti-crime programs and provides analysis concerning crime patterns and trends to department units and other law enforcement agencies; and
- **Real Time Crime Center**, which continuously monitors all priority one and two calls-for-service throughout the city to maintain situational awareness and keep the Chief of Police and Executive Staff informed about emerging incidents.

HPD's Crime Center also serves as the department operations center, a hub of information-sharing and gathering during times of disaster and emergency response.



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Emergency Communications

The Emergency Communications Division (ECD) is commanded by a Commander who oversees both classified and civilian personnel. The division manages emergency and nonemergency calls (9-1-1 and 713-884-3131, respectively).

After Houston Emergency Center call-takers receive a call and gather essential information, it is routed to ECD staff for further handling. An officer may be dispatched to a scene, or the call may be handled through an alternative response unit:

- **Teleserve**, which serves as a report-writing unit that services "delayed report" calls involving lost or stolen property or willful damage to property lacking evidence and suspects; and
- **Patrol Desk Unit**, which seeks innovative ways to resolve citizen requests for service via the telephone to keep patrol officers free for higher priority calls for service and crime control efforts.



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Property

The Property Division is the lead accountability agent for the management, preservation, and control of property and evidence. The division's mission is to provide accountability and service to citizens, law enforcement officials, and prosecutors, who rely on the evidence and goods stored, maintained, and tracked by the division. The division also facilitates surplus/salvage services for HPD.

The division's primary operational units include:

- **Intake**, a 24/7 operation that allows the department personnel to tag or retrieve evidence;
- **Property Disposition** and **Property Disposal**, which work closely with the District Attorney's office and courts to determine what evidence and property can be processed for disposal, then retrieves and disposes of items approved for disposal in accordance with state law and city ordinance; and
- **Vehicle Impound Lot**, which allows personnel to tag or retrieve evidence.



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Victim Services

The Victim Services Division is responsible for assisting victims of crime, as well as their families, by providing assistance and referrals based on the specific needs of the victim. The division works closely with various social service and legal agencies within the City of Houston and Harris County, and is familiar with a wide array of resources available to crime victims. The primary units are:

Victim Advocates initiate follow up on cases involving crime victims via phone, in person and through virtual platforms. This follow up consists of meeting the needs of the victim by offering the appropriate referrals and assistance specific to each victim. The Advocacy Unit also has an On-Call Team, which consists of on-call supervisors, advocates, and officers who respond to media worthy incidents in order to assist the victims and their families directly affected by the incident. Advocates, officers and supervisors continually participate in community activities. The activities consist of presentations on Victim Services and the role in which the division may assist crime victims. These presentations are made with community partners, advocacy groups, apartment managers & residents, small businesses & large corporations, and educational



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institutions. The staff also participates in resource fairs, radio programs, social media presentations and virtual platforms. The division is in the process of expanding their social media presence on various social media platforms.

U & T Visa Unit -Officers process the numerous U Visa Certification requests for the department. This consist of the initial intake of the requests, processing them and completing the response from the department. These officers work closely with non-profit immigration attorneys and private attorneys to process the request for the undocumented immigrant victims;

Domestic Abuse Response Team- D.A.R.T. consist of Victim Advocates paired with a D.A.R.T. trained officers who respond to Domestic Violence and other violent crime scenes shortly after the patrol officers have responded. The D.A.R.T. Units are able to provide an immediate on scene assessment with the victim and provide immediate referral services. The D.A.R.T. Units are also able to make an immediate referral to an on-duty forensic nurse to evaluate the victim and for the preservation of valuable evidence. The D.A.R.T. Units currently work an overlapping shift between the evening and night shift hours and on the weekends providing crucial advocacy to crime victims; and

QUICK TIP!

The Domestic Abuse Response Team are highly trained, two-person, mobile teams, consisting of one HPD officer and one victim advocate who respond to “high risk” domestic violence crime scenes.

How to contact

- Victim Advocates are available Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 7:00 pm thru 3:00 am.
- Email: Victim.Services@houstonpolice.org

For additional information, visit: https://www.houstontx.gov/police/victim_services/index.htm

INVESTIGATIVE & SPECIAL OPERATIONS

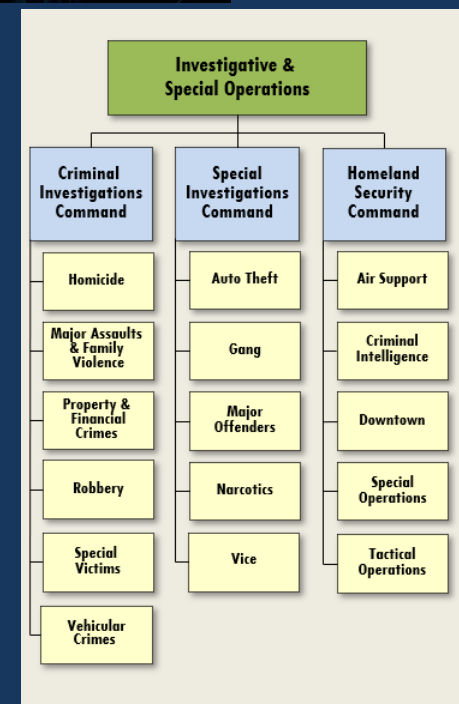
Investigative & Special Operations is an executive command level office directed by an Executive Assistant Chief who reports directly to the Chief of Police. Responsibilities of the Executive Assistant Chief include representing the department and the Chief of Police at ceremonies, civic meetings, City Council meetings, town hall meetings, disciplinary hearings, and civil service hearings. Additionally, the position serves as chair to various internal committees that address organizational issues, community concerns, and political issues raised by elected officials. The Executive Assistant Chief also serves as the Acting Chief of Police as required and when designated by the Chief of Police.

The Command is responsible for organizing, directing, coordinating, developing, and implementing management strategies that promote efficient and effective solutions to critical investigative and support issues.

The span of control for this Office includes the three commands outlined in the command summaries that follow.



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Ban Tien
Executive Assistant Chief



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMAND

The Criminal Investigations Command has citywide responsibility for delivering specialized investigative police services to Houston and the surrounding area. An Assistant Chief is responsible for the oversight and supervision of six divisions, each led by a Commander. Each is described in greater detail in the division summaries on the pages that follow. In addition, the Command is responsible for:

- **Crime Stoppers:** The Crime Stoppers Law Enforcement Task Force is responsible for receiving anonymous tips from the public regarding felony crimes or fugitives from justice. This task force works with all investigative units in disseminating information received in order to further investigations, which ultimately may lead to the arrest and charging of the individuals responsible for these types of crimes.



Kevin Deese
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Criminal Investigations Command

Homicide

Robbery

Major Assaults
& Family
Violence

Special Victims

Property &
Financial
Crimes

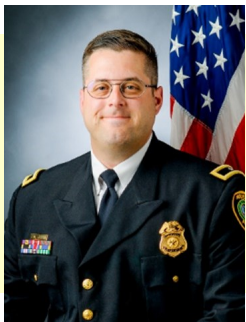
Vehicular Crimes

Homicide

The Homicide Division is responsible for the investigation of deaths that occur in the city of Houston. The division's **Homicide Squads** investigate all homicide-related offenses including questionable deaths when foul play is suspected. The unit is staffed 24/7 and responds to crime scenes in addition to conducting follow-up investigations.

Other units within the Homicide Division include:

- **Cold Case Squad**, which reviews old homicide cases for new leads or evidence;
- **Gang Squad**, which investigates gang-related murders and which collaborates with the FBI's Multi-Agency Gang Task Force;
- **Investigative Support**, which helps all of the division's units to secure information from public utilities, credit bureaus, and various computer databases; and
- **Special Investigations Unit**, which investigates officer involved shootings, criminal allegations against the department or other city employees, and other matters assigned by the Chief of Police.



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Major Assaults & Family Violence

Major Assaults & Family Violence is HPD's newest division, established on June 30, 2018, by combining the Major Assaults Unit formerly in the Homicide Division and the Family Violence Units from the Special Victims Division.

The **Major Assaults Unit** investigates non-family, adult assaults in which the complainant is expected to survive. These include offenses involving hate crimes, deadly conduct, harassment, road rage and terroristic threats. It also investigates kidnappings not investigated as in-progress offenses.

The **Family Violence Unit** investigates incidents involving family violence that do not involve the death of the complainant. The unit also receives and enters protective orders into the Texas and National Crime Information Center (TCIC and NCIC) databases. It investigates reports of elder abuse submitted by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, which includes Adult Protective Services (APS). The unit's on-site counselors provide immediate resource and referral services to victims of family violence.



Jonathon Halliday
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Property & Financial Crimes

The Property & Financial Crimes Division has responsibility for the investigation of all property crimes, except for auto-related thefts and the investigation of criminal activity conducted through technology and modern telecommunication networks.

The Property Unit includes the following details: **Alarm** detail, which enforces rules governing alarms in the city; **Investigations**, which handles follow-up on cases involving unauthorized entry with the intent to commit a felony or theft, **Metal Theft**, which inspects and monitors scrap metal businesses; **Pawn** detail, which monitors and inspects the city's pawn shops, **Precious Metals**, which inspects jewelry dealers and assists in jewelry crimes and **Property** detail, which works to reunite citizens with their lost or stolen property.

The Financial Crimes Unit is divided into **Cyber Crimes**, which investigates network intrusions, online impersonations, intellectual property rights, business email compromise, ransomware, doxing, swatting, computer related theft and/or fraud, and the unlawful disclosure or promotion of intimate visual material; and **Financial Crimes**, which is responsible for identity theft investigations and crimes related to forged documents.



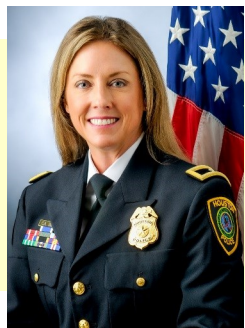
Nhattien Nguyen
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Robbery

The Robbery Division conducts investigations concerning all robbery offenses, theft from person and extortion cases. These activities may be in the form of initial, follow-up, or proactive investigations. Significant activities include identifying and apprehending suspects, interrogating offenders, conducting line-ups, filing charges, preparing cases for prosecution, and testifying in court. The Robbery Division also coordinates investigations with other local, state, and federal agencies.

The division's units include:

- **Administrative**, which includes the contact and pending case squads, in addition to maintaining the division's case management system;
- **Investigative Squads**, which are housed at police stations;
- **Bank Squad**, which supports the FBI Bank Robbery Task Force; and
- **Violent Offender Squad**, which investigates the most violent and serial cases.



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Special Victims

The Special Victims Division investigates sexual assault, child sexual abuse, physical abuse of a child, and elder abuse. The Special Victims Division strengthens the quality of its investigations and support for victims by framing investigations in a victim-centered approach and by collaborating with victim support services and community outreach organizations. The Special Victims Division manages the following units:

- **Adult Sex Crimes**, which investigates sexual assaults of adult victims;
- **Child Sexual Abuse**, which investigates allegations of sexual offenses involving children (16 and younger), and works closely with the Children's Assessment Center to secure medical care, therapy, and support for child victims and their families; and
- **Child Physical Abuse**, which investigates all criminal offenses related to the physical abuse of juveniles (17 and under), collaborating with CPS and the District Attorney's Office to ensure incidents are reported, investigated, and prosecuted.



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Vehicular Crimes

The Vehicular Crimes Division (VCD) is the department's expert on motor vehicle crashes. It investigates catastrophic crashes and provides cadet and in-service training in crash scene investigations. VCD is specifically tasked with investigating crashes with a criminal nexus, such as fatal crashes, Failure to Stop and Render Aid (FSRA), Failure to Stop and Give Information (FSGI) accidents, as well as crashes involving HPD and HFD fleet vehicles. The division's operational units include:

- **Crash Investigation**, which responds and investigates catastrophic crashes;
- **Crash Reconstruction**, which provides technical expertise for fatal crashes and all other vehicular crashes with a criminal nexus. This unit also provides the primary crash investigations instruction for the division and police academy cadet training; and
- **Hit and Run**, which conducts on-scene investigations for FSRA accidents and conducts follow-up investigations on FSRA and FSGI accidents, as well as follow-up investigations on property damage from hit and run collisions.



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SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMAND

The Special Investigations Command has citywide responsibility for delivering a diverse array of specialized investigative police services to the city of Houston and the surrounding area. An Assistant Chief is responsible for the oversight and supervision of five divisions, each led by a Commander. Each is described in greater detail on the pages that follow.

DID YOU KNOW?

With more than 5,100 officers and another 900 civilian support staff members, the Houston Police Department is the largest law enforcement agency in the state of Texas. The department has mutual aid agreements with other law enforcement agencies in the region, and regularly provides assistance when called upon. HPD also cooperates with state and federal law enforcement, including participation in many joint operations, including:

- Houston Regional Intelligence Service Center (HRISC), the region's fusion center;
- ATF Task Force;
- Houston Metro Internet Crimes Against Houston Task Force (eight counties, 56 agencies);
- Gulf Coast Violent Offenders Task Force; and
- Numerous FBI-led task forces, including the Joint Terrorism Task Force, Criminal Enterprise Groups, the Cyber Crimes Task Force, and the Greater Houston Region Computer Forensic Laboratory.



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Assistant Chief

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Special Investigations Command

Auto Theft

Narcotics

Gang

Vice

Major Offenders

Auto Theft

The Auto Theft Division is responsible for investigating thefts of motor vehicles and vehicle parts, as well as investigating burglaries of motor vehicles. It is also responsible for the regulation of automotive related businesses. The division is organized into the following six units:

- **Grants**, which manages grant-funded initiatives;
- **Proactive**, which focuses on emerging crime trends and deploys bait vehicles;
- **Incoming Case Investigations**;
- **Support Services**, which coordinates division administrative activities and functions;
- **Special Investigations**, which includes the Property Disposition Squad, Violent Crimes Task Force, Identity Theft/Document Fraud, and Case Management; and
- **Auto Dealers Detail**, which is responsible for licensing and regulating Houston's automotive industry through inspections and investigation of citizen complaints.



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Gang

The Gang Division is responsible for the review and verification of all gang-related crimes in Houston, the documentation and input of gang and gang members' information into the HPD Gang Tracker Database, and the proactive police investigations of the Multi-Agency Gang Task Force. Along with these tasks, this division is a resource for all other divisions' efforts against gang-related criminal activity. The division's primary units include:

- **Crime Reduction Unit** targets high crime areas throughout the city to identify and arrest as many wanted fugitives, repeat offenders and criminals as possible;
- **Tactical Surveillance Team** uses proactive, reactive, and analytical techniques to prevent and suppress serial activity with the pursuit of federal charges;
- **Proactive Investigative Squads** participates in The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (H.I.D.T.A) program with the goals to disrupt and dismantle criminal gangs and organizations.



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Major Offenders

The Major Offenders Division is responsible for the investigation of highly specialized and often unique types of criminal activity that fall outside the scope or expertise of other investigative divisions. The division's cases are predominately related to felony offenses and involve habitual or career offenders. The division ultimately has the responsibility to determine whether a crime is reported to federal or state record keeping agencies as a hate crime, pursuant to the classification requirements of the 1990 Federal Hate Crime Statistics Act. The division's major operational units include:

- **Targeted Offenders**, which includes a *Career Criminal Squad*, *Fugitive Squad*, *Parole Violator Squad*, and the personnel participating in the *Gulf Coast Violent Offenders Task Force*;
- **Special Thefts**, which includes *Environmental Investigations*, the *Police Impersonation Squad*, *Swindle Squad*, and *Cargo Theft/Fence Squad*; and
- **Inter-Agency Task Forces**, which work on a wide range of issues including firearms trafficking, organized crime, and violent street gangs involved in organized crime, and major theft criminal enterprises.



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Narcotics

The Narcotics Division is charged with the suppression of illegal possession, manufacture, and distribution of controlled substances. To counter the threat of illegal narcotics-related violence and crime, the Narcotics Division has developed multifaceted strategies and initiatives targeting and attacking all levels of this complex problem. The suppression of such narcotics activity is accomplished through proactive investigations utilizing intelligence gathering capabilities, surveillance, confidential informants, and undercover operations.

A number of investigative specialized squads were created in response to the complexity of tasks that narcotics officers must undertake, either alone or in conjunction with other agencies. These squads include *General Narcotics Enforcement Squads*; the multi-jurisdictional *Houston Intelligence Service Center*; the *Major Drug Squad*; the *Forfeiture Abatement Support Team*; *Targeted Narcotics Enforcement Team*; the *Houston Money Laundering Initiative*; the *Truck, Air, Rail and Port Task Force*; the *Pharmaceutical Diversion Squad*; the *Narcotics Operations Control Center*; the *Heroin Squad*; and the *Canine Squad*.



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Vice

The Vice Division is a functional component of the Special Investigations Command that is charged with the suppression of prostitution, illegal gambling, human trafficking, sexually oriented business enforcement, and Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) code violations. Additionally, the division responds to citizen complaints regarding vice-related activities and supports other departmental personnel and outside agencies in related investigations.

The suppression of illegal vice-related activity is accomplished through proactive investigations using intelligence, surveillance, confidential informants, and undercover operations. Units within the division investigate illegal gambling, including bookmakers; illegal casinos and card games; gambling devices in bars, entertainment areas, and carnivals. The division investigates escort services, massage parlors, modeling studios, and topless clubs suspected as being fronts for prostitution, and Vice works with the City Legal Department to seek civil injunctions and judgments against these establishments.



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QUICK TIP!

Crime Stoppers

How to report a tip:

Call 713.222.TIPS (8477)

Use Mobile App (Crime Stoppers Houston)

Go to Crime-Stoppers.Org

HOMELAND SECURITY COMMAND

The Homeland Security Command leads planning and coordination of all department activities associated with preventing, protecting against, responding to, and recovering from intentional acts of terrorism and accidental/natural catastrophic incidents.

The Command operates in conjunction with other local, state, and federal law enforcement partners; other local government officials; emergency responders from all disciplines in the Houston metropolitan region; and private sector critical infrastructure stakeholders. It has made extensive efforts to improve planning documents that will govern how department personnel respond and perform should such an event take place.

The Command works closely with the Mayor's Office of Public Safety & Homeland Security to secure the federal grant resources needed to support the department's planning, equipment, training, and exercise needs.

The Command is also the home to significant key infrastructures including the Downtown Houston central business district, George R. Brown Convention Center, Minute Maid Park, Toyota Center, Medical Center, much of the Metro Rail system, the Texas Medical Center, Johnson Space Center, three major universities.

The Command oversees five divisions outlined on the pages that follow.



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Air Support

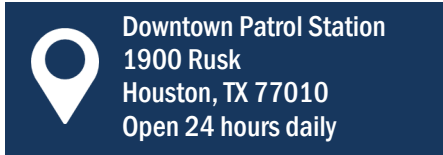
The Air Support Division provides airborne law enforcement services to citizens and law enforcement officers in the Greater Houston area. The Air Support Division provides Support for high speed pursuits with high definition FLIR video for prosecution, call for service response (burglary in progress, missing persons, suspects evading on foot), Homeland security site checks, security flights for the Ship Channel and Port of Houston and aerial surveillance for covert operations.

The Air Support Division also provides support with emergency and special events by conducting damage assessments for weather related events (hurricanes, floods), works with lake patrol to identify access points and location of possible victims that need to be rescued by boat, provides aerial oversight for large scale protests, to provide live video downlink for major scenes and special events (super bowl, protests, marathons, conferences, and presidential motorcade), ceremonial flyovers and static displays (police week, funerals, and Houston Police foundation events) and tactical assistance for SWAT for insertions and possible extractions.



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Downtown



Downtown Division is responsible for providing police services within the 1A10 police beat, which contains the Central Business District. The beat is subdivided into 11 sectors. Other than patrol duties, Downtown Division is tasked with traffic control for high attendance events, special event assignments and small scale protests that occur within its jurisdiction.

Some of the significant landmarks in this patrol area include City Hall, HPD headquarters, George R. Brown Convention Center, Minute Maid Stadium, Toyota Center, Discovery Green Park, Market Square Park, the Theater District, and the Downtown Houston tunnel system. Twenty Fortune 500 companies occupy offices downtown.

Although the area has a high concentration of businesses, the residential population has grown with new development of residential spaces. The current residential population in the downtown area is approximately 75,000.



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Criminal Intelligence

The Criminal Intelligence Division (CID) collects, analyzes, and disseminates criminal intelligence information through confidential investigations, analysis of information, and proper liaison with various officials and other sources of criminal information. CID provides dignitary protection, monitors public assemblies, and assists with investigations of threats against HPD employees and elected officials.

CID provides technical surveillance and communications intelligence support to other HPD divisions. Division personnel working in the Organized Crime Unit, Fusion Center, and Joint Terrorism Task Force all work in coordination with local, state and federal partners to develop and share intelligence needed to maintain the safety and security of this dynamic region.



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Special Operations

The Special Operations Division's primary functions are to coordinate police resources for special events; and to respond to major incidents throughout the city. The division consists of five specialized units, which function collectively to fulfill its primary and secondary functions. These specialized units include:

- **Special Response Group**, which provides crowd control for around 200 planned and unplanned demonstrations and events each year;
- **Special Events Group**, which coordinates HPD activities at 125 special events each year, including parades, fun runs, dignitary visits, and other activities planned by the Mayor's Office of Special Events;
- **Mounted Patrol**, which patrols the central business district and Hermann and Memorial Parks, proactively addressing quality of life issues and deterring crime through active enforcement and high visibility;
- **Catastrophic Planning Unit**, which plans police responses to various catastrophic



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events, including natural disasters, pandemics, and terrorist attacks;

- **1033 Unit**, The 1033 Program, or the Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) Program, allows the Houston Police Department to acquire surplus military equipment from the Department of Defense, enhancing capabilities at minimal cost. This includes high water vehicles vital for flood response, as well as a range of heavy equipment for various operational needs. Through the program, the department can access essential resources for high water truck preparedness, disaster response, and general law enforcement activities. It enables significant cost savings while necessitating proper management of the acquired assets, ensuring they are maintained, distributed, and used effectively to bolster public safety and operational efficiency;
- **Port Patrol Unit**, which is responsible for maritime response on all waterways within the Port of Houston/Ship Channel and its connecting waterways, providing boater safety, search and recovery, and security patrols of critical infrastructure; and
- **Lake Patrol Unit**, patrols Lake Houston, its feeding rivers and tributaries, and the critical infrastructure which serves as the City's largest water source. The Unit maintains two principal functions; safety through deterrence and law enforcement, as well as public education directed toward recreational and commercial activities. Additionally, Lake Patrol officers respond to flood and swift-water rescue calls throughout the City of Houston.

Tactical Operations

The Tactical Operations Division consists of an administrative unit and four operational units that are available 24/7 for special threat situations warranting a tactical response. The division's operational units include:

- **Bomb Squad**, which responds to all calls involving potential improvised explosive devices and renders them safe; supports SWAT with robot operations, supports large scenes and special events (e.g., Super Bowl and All-Star games); recovers explosive and military ordnance; and any calls involving explosions to render the post-blast scene safe;
- **Patrol Canine Detail**, which helps patrol officers in their searches for people, and evidence, including both narcotics and explosives;
- **Hostage Negotiation Team**, which provides specially trained personnel who work to achieve a safe conclusion for special threat situations involving hostage taking or barricaded suspects; and



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- **Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Detail**, which responds to high-risk incidents involving snipers, barricaded suspects, suicide threats, and terrorist activities.
- **Dive Team**, which handles emergency response on the water, evidence recovery, vehicle recovery, body recovery, swift water rescue, flood response and requests from outside agencies.

QUICK TIPS!

How You Can Fight Hate Crimes

- Hate crimes can create destructive feelings in various communities, especially among groups sensitive to this issue, but there are ways to fight back.

You Can Fight Hate Crimes by:

- **Immediately reporting** any crime you witness or experience to the police. Be sure to write down as many details as possible. Be as specific as possible. If you believe the incident was motivated by bias against you, make sure to tell the responding officer.
- Educating your family and friends about hate crimes and the importance of reporting them.
- Understanding and respecting cultural and individual differences.

Filing a complaint

There are several ways you can file a complaint against an HPD employee.

1. Visit a station and speak to a supervisor.
2. Complete and notarize a complaint form (available on the HPD website) and mail it to Internal Affairs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

visit

